

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are now pending in the present application. Claims 1-10 have been withdrawn. Additionally, Claims 11-15, and 18-23 have been amended and no claims have been added.

Applicant has carefully studied the outstanding Office Action. The present Response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner's rejections in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 101**Claims 11-23**

The Examiner has rejected claims 11-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter in light of the interim guidelines.

In particular, the Examiner stated:

The claims do not provide a transformation, nor do they provide a useful concrete and tangible result that is practically applied since designing is simply an abstraction.¹

Response:

In a brief telephone conference with Examiner Essama Omgba conducted on August 21, the Examiner indicated that the concept of “designing” is abstract and less abstract words like “providing” should be used. Consequently, applicants have amended the claims accordingly.

The Examiner also indicated the first sentence on page 6 of the originally filed application was unnecessary. Consequently, applicants have amended the specification to omit such language.

¹ Office Action mailed August 15, 2006, page 2.

CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments and the arguments made by Applicants above, Applicants submit that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that Examiner withdraw all rejections with regard to the above-referenced claims in reliance on one or more of the grounds submitted by Applicants.

If there are any outstanding issues that the Examiner feels may be resolved by way of a telephone conference, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact Chad E. Walter or Colin P. Cahoon at 972-367-2001.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any payments that may be due or credit any overpayments to CARSTENS & CAHOON, L.L.P. Deposit Account 50-0392.

Respectfully submitted by:



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